

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 01:04:12 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 20:04:12 -0500
Message-Id: <AD673507CE@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu>
From: RANDY@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu
Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

Well I must say that in almost all respects I too deplore the quality of parts and units found at "Ratshack" as you put it....

HOWEVER

we ran some tests (sound-proof chamber, instrument grade measurement mics, etc), and then confirmed by contacting several colleagues in the field, that the Minimus 3.5 is one helluva good speaker.

While the transformers, etc may be substandard, don't sell short that speaker.

=Randy=

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 19:09:27 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:09:27 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061907.NAA07158@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU>
From: al511@freenet.hsc.colorado.edu (Robert Neece)
Subject: AM peak power

Roy Morgan asks:

>Sooo ... Is the peak value of a killowatt AM signal 4000 watts?

Assuming 100% modulation, and assuming plate modulation of the final amp. that produces the carrier, the peak power of the AM envelope is four times the carrier power. If the carrier amp. is running Class C, it might have 80% efficiency. This produces 800 watts of carrier output with a kW of unmodulated input. Thus, output on maximum modulation peaks should be 3200 W. (This assumes a tank circuit design that is efficient at those peak levels.)

Output figures are the only ones that *ought* to be relevant to the rating of the TR switch. So the particular Johnson switch in question *appears* to have a rating that is more than adequate for an AM kW. In the old days, though, few paid much attention to output levels. Owing to the focus of the regs., people were much more attentive to input levels.

Many manufacturers took this into account in rating their products. As a result, they adopted the imprecise practice (often without saying so) of couching their ratings in terms input figures that they assumed would produce a typical output. Accordingly, the Johnson rating may be *just* adequate for a kW input. What Johnson probably meant by the rating was: "If you run a full gallon on AM, this switch will take it." What the *true* rating (as opposed to the spec.) happens to be is anybody's guess. :-)

With the current power regs. set at 1500 W peak output, one needs only 450 W or so of class C carrier input for a full power, plated-modulated, legal-limit AM transmitter. Today, a Collins KW-1 is, relative to the legal limit, overkill by a factor of better than two. :-)

--

73 de Bob, K0KR

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:43:45 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:43:45 -0500
Message-Id: <F66G3650.F66G3711@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Antenna throwing guns

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Hello Duncan, G0UTY

Your idea of a sort of line throwing gun to erect an antenna is intriguing. I've set up something similar here.

I've never been real comfortable climbing towers, trees, etc. (which is interesting, when you consider I used to fly, and felt perfectly at home. Go figure).

The "Guerilla Warfare Handbook" by Che Guevarra showed a homebrewed grenade launcher made from a 16 gauge shotgun, and I thought that this might have promise as a line launcher, but thankfully my common sense finally won out on THAT idea.

To get lines into trees for antenna erection now, I use a crossbow (150 pound pull), using MODIFIED (VERY important!) bolts.

The bolts available for crossbows are either tubular aluminum or fibreglass. I prefer the fibreglass ones myself; they last longer. The aluminum ones wind

up bent after a shot or two, and consequently won't fly straight.

The mods I use are simple.

As a matter of safety, you don't want either the field points or razorheads that these things come with. The heads screw into the shaft ends to make them replaceable. I simply replace them with a machine screw, and adequate washers to make the whole assembly the same weight as the removed point.

Next, I crossdrill the shaft back behind the fletching (i.e., feathers), to provide a hole for attaching nylon surveyor's cord to the shaft. BTW, I've been considering trying Kevlar kite string instead of surveyor's cord.

Finally, to make it easier to find after firing, I spraypaint the shaft flat white, followed by a coat of International Orange. I'm glad I did that; on the initial experiments where I was still looking for the best string to use, the arrow and cord separated on firing, due to the high G shock that the otherwise satisfactory cord couldn't handle.

My particular crossbow (a Browning) had a thumbscrew mounted quiver on the front end. The mounting points are used to hold a home made bracket (built from scrap aluminum and a dog food can) which holds the spool of surveyor's cord.

For anyone that tries this, be sure you pay out the cord from the MIDDLE of the spool, NOT from the outside. Take my word for it, it just works better that way.

All this may sound like an awful lot of trouble and expense; at one time I'd have agreed with you. Nowadays tho, I'm 46, out of shape, and 230 pounds. That, combined with a fear of heights, is a rotten combination for tree climbing to heights that would do justice to an HF antenna.

What the hell; I ran into a deal on a crossbow I couldn't refuse, and I needed the excuse :-)

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 22:16:45 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 17:16:45 -0500
Message-Id: <199506062214.SAA10201@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
From: Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
Subject: Re: Antenna throwing guns

I too recently resorted to using a crossbow for antenna raising. After years of struggling amongst the tangle of trees on the property, and settling for low antennas, I finally picked up a cheap crossbow and some fishing line.

I managed to find some kind of "safety" arrow, this thing with a giant rubber cork on the end of it that would not cause any damage. It only cost me a buck or two. I drilled a hole in the end of the arrow, slid the fishing line through, and shot the line up into the trees. In less than 10 minutes I had my 40 meter dipole twice as high as it was before.

The only drawback was some strange looks from the neighbors who couldn't help but wonder what I was doing shooting arrows up into the trees. I also noticed the neighborhood children were drawn in from the streets until I was apparently done with my antenna raising.

Damon Cassell, WU1T
dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 00:20:37 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 19:20:37 -0500
Message-Id: <SA06+V,DpjA@bangate.compaq.com>
From: Dave=Sharp%Legal%Corp=Hou@bangate.compaq.com
Subject: re: Antenna throwing guns

If you check at your local Electrical Supply houses (Nunn electric, Greybar, etc..) and ask for Jetline or Birdline "birds" you find a nice surprise. They have these little line bombs that are designed to be blown via a BIG CO2 bottle thru conduit. They have a flat foam washer on one end and are full of specially wound Nylon high strength line. It is GREAT for shooting up antennas. The birds come in different sizes (and lengths) and are pretty cheap. I have a small clamp on bracket for a kids bow to get it gone with about 40lb pull. Just tie the loose end in the arrow or tape it with celluloid tape to keep the kid happy and with no holes in his arrows. I like the crossbow idea though. Hmmm Where ya get that deal?

You can also clamp the bird to an R/C 4wd truck to run thru ceilings, drain pipes, etc. I had a friend that used to use his DOG. Claimed his as unreimbursed business expense to keep him fed. Ha.

Dave

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 13:59:11 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 08:59:11 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061359.AA28411@jsun.agen.okstate.edu>
From: vmike@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Mike Veldman)
Subject: B/A's in use

What a fun thread, I think I'll contribute. It seems like the majority of hams to visit my shack/lab always comment something to the effect: why do you have all this old equipment?
Ham Station: Drake B-line on hf, Drake B-line on 2 & 432, Drake TR-3 on ten, Galaxie-5, Swan 500, Multi-Elmac AF-68, and a Heath 101 in my office here at work.
Listening post: SP600JX-21 with Eldico SBA-1 sideband adapter, Panoramic Products IP173AU panoramic adapter and an fm adapter made from a Motorola G-strip, rycom 2174A, General Electronics vhf receiver, Nems Clarke vhf receiver, and for the baseband end of my weather sat system a Defense Electronics TMR-5 feeding a Magnecord P-60 recorder.
The bench:(my favorite place, hope it doesn't fall on me)
Lavoie LA-18M, HP608D, HP612, HP430C, HP400H, HP201C, HP342A, General Radio 1215A/1214A, General Radio 1210C, Tek 561A, TEK 564, TEK 545A/1L20/1L30, TEK 107, TEK RM-529, TEK 526, Spencer Kennedy 206 wide-band amp, Kronn-Hite 10 watt wide-band amp, Boonton 91C, Jerrold 601 sweep-gen, Allen 960 video sweep-gen, TV-7D, AN/USM-68 portable rf power meter. The rest are ss, you don't want to here about those.
Under construction: refurbishinr of my grampa's 500 watt 20mtr homebrew a pair of 100TH's modulated by a pair of HY-40Z's built the year I was born(special to me), a ten meter ssb/fm out of a 100 watt GE low-band base station, a six meter ssb/fm out of Motorola strips, and of'course my TCS station, and atleast 100 other starts.
Guess I've hefted some weights, there's gonna be a heck of a sale if I ever decide to see what's next.
This was a fun excersise, now I'm looking forward to heading home this afternoon to look at all of this neet junque.

73
mike
WD0CTA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:57:10 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:57:10 -0500
Message-Id: <39215.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: RE: B/A's in use

In message Tue, 6 Jun 1995 08:59:16 -0500,
vmike@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Mike Veldman) writes:

>
> What a fun thread, I think I'll contribute. It seems like the
> majority of hams to visit my shack/lab always comment something
> to the effect: why do you have all this old equipment?

>
> vhf receiver, Nems Clarke vhf receiver, and for the baseband
> end of my weather sat system a Defense Electronics TMR-5 feeding

And I thought I had a lot! /but not the point. My interest is in the DEI
TMR-5. My first job after electronics school (Capitol Radio Engineering
Institute--Washington D.C.) was as a test technician with Defense
Electronics. I did the alignment and final checkout on many a TMR-5 as well
as the others TMR2A--TR102--GPR90--and others a can't remember after 26
years. The point--I was assigned stamp DEI-19 a round stamp with 19 in the
center. I would be interested in knowing if I was the technician that
aligned your TMR-5. My stamp should also be on the IF strips, the Video
Amplifiers some of the detectors but not on the RF Tuning units the one
module I didn't align. Still have a few of the spec sheets and maybe an odd
instruction manual on some of the modules. Great receiver keep it going.

James C. Owen, III
National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
Bldg 225/B360
Gaithersburg, MD 20899
1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:28:50 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:28:50 -0500
Message-Id: <m0sJ4vm-00003kC@next3.acme.ist.ucf.edu>
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: Re: B/A's in use

This is an interesting thread!

Well I'm just a tech as yet, but in addition to the the de rigeur
2m HT, I use a Heath SB102 to listen with and have a Bud tube
"boatanchor" code practice oscillator. I have a 6 meter Swan
250 that needs some work.

Once I get coded I am working on a 40ish station with a Meissner

Signal Shifter and a Hallicrafters SX24.

Have some other BA gear, HQ170, an old Howard, some Heath

accessories, and I'm collecting parts for things I always wanted to build when I was a teenager - maybe I'll get to build them yet!

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:54:16 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:54:16 -0500
Message-Id: <PMX-TERM-2.02-bsm2ee1-thaake-225>
From: thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake)
Subject: BAs in use

Gang,

Sorry for blowing away all this bandwidth for a second time but I forgot to even hint what I was doing with the BAs. That's the fun part. Secondly the antenna switching problem is a real nitemare. I have been reading with great interest everyone's solutions and will have to make some system work soon. I have a Hustler 5BTV vertical (ground mounted dummy load), and a 80M dipole which is feed with 450 line. The line is cut to 66 foot or so and with the 80M dipole it will resonate quite nicely on 160M with a real tuner (no MFJ stuff here). So there are two antennas that to date (arggh) I switch from station to station via 2 patch cords. I built a patch panel next to the tuner and from that point I can select either two antennas or both. I like some of your ideas much better. The only SS stuff I have is a Kenwood HT and a Yeasu mobile. Test equipment is for anohter day.

I can be found on 75M saturday mornings and 75M/160M early Sunday evenings. Other bands when I have the time.

I listed Mics on the main stations. I am using what I found at the "right price" not for any other reason. Wonder what your experiences are for the right mic for each transmitter. Some can get real picky on that subject.

My working stations are:

Collins R-388 Receiver

B&W T-368C Transmitter & tuner/D-104 Mike mod

(Use this station on 75M cause my antenna tuner can't handle the beast on 160M...when I have used it on 160M I completely de-program my neighbor's TV BIG TIME. Requires a power reset to get the picture back!!! Then a complete channel re-program)

Globe Champion 350 (w/audio mods) Transmitter/ EV 664 Mic

National HRO-50

(Use this station on 160M because my antenna tuner can handle the Champ and the HRO is so smoooooth to tune with great audio)

Globe King 400 Transmitter (plug-in coil mania)/D-104 Mic

HQ-170 Receiver

(Use this station on 75M occasionally since moving coils around is...but the Globe 400 looks neat. It has a pair of V-70Ds, plug-in coils and black winkle chassis. Real perty and has excellent audio. This is really my favorite Globe King and I don't know why)

Globe King 500 Transmitter & 755 VFO/D-104 Mic

National NC-183

(Like this station on 40M and want to try in on 10M some time...has anyone routinely used their 500 on 10M??)

Gonset G-66B

Gonset G-77

(The "Chrome Twins")

(Occasional 40M use just for fun, doesn't hear like I think it should)

Gonset G-50 (6 meters)

(Local Sunday morning net with several BA locals, surplus business band trombone vertical cut down to 6M for ant...want to replace the G-50 with a Polycom 6)

Polycom 2 for 2 Meters

(The best 2 Meter AM transceiver ever made. Hotter than a pistol, selective, stable as a rock on it's built in VFO and has internal DC SS 12V supply... Nobody to talk on 2 AM)

Gonset 2 Meter Sidewinder

(Work one of the local BAs that has a beautiful Clegg Zeus/Interceptor set but that's usually the extent of it's use.. also using a J-Pole. That could be the biggest problem!!)

For SSB:

Collins KWS-1/EV-664 Mic

2 each 75A4s

(Fighting a nasty neutralization problem, but got some help from Jack WB8BFS out in beautiful Colorado)

Homebrew Projects:

Single 813 in 4 Foot 19" cabinet

Has HV power but no exciter or modulator

(Probably will never fly)

Pair 250THs/B&W HDVL Tank with Butterfly in 6 Foot 24" cabinet

(Thinking of using a pair of 4-400s with Air sockets cause the 250s are suspect.... this was to be my Collins KW-1/30K ripoff since I was able to finally get St. James Gray wrinkle paint)

Has 4-125 modulator circuit from T-368 parts

(This project may never fly either but has priority over the 813 rig)

Military Projects:

(Goal is to have a complete dynamotor station with the following)

Command sets

(have 3 receivers on a rack with remote head, rcvrs for BC/40M/80M)

(transmitter on single rack for 80M with head, had the screen modulator but let a friend talk me outta it)

ART-13 and dynamotor

ARR-15/R-105A (51H3?) & dynamotor

(really need a 348 for this one I guess but the ARR-15 is outstanding... a weekend and this would be one up and "humming" station)

Tim WA0TSY

thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:37:25 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:37:25 -0500

Message-Id: <00991792.F2E9C100.77@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

From: post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu

Subject: Re:BAs/Museums in Germany/Netherlands?

Ohio University Electronic Communication

Date: 06-Jun-1995 12:34pm EST

To: Remote Addressee (_MX%"boatanchors@theporch.com")

From: Richard Post
Services
POST
Dept: Instructional Media
Tel No:

Subject: Re:BA's/Museums in Germany/Netherlands?

>trip that will take me to Germany (Hamburg) and the Netherlands
>(Amsterdam). Does anyone have any advice on sources of BA equipment of
>radio-oriented museums in either location

While in the Netherlands, take a short trip to Hilversum (not too far from Amsterdam) and visit the Omroeps (Broadcast) Museum. They have nice displays on the history and technology of Dutch broadcasting, including a display of a variety of tubes and their development, and the typical vintage "sales/ repair shop" with numerous radio sets. The museum is not necessarily BA (as in "heavy metal") oriented but well worth the time. Check with any VVV office (tourist and travel information bureau) for street address and opening hours. It's listed in their Museum Gids (guide).

If you don't speak the language, don't worry. Most educated Dutch people will be delighted to try out their English skills on you.

Tot ziens, ('Till we see you again) and 73

Rich <post@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu>

Received: 06-Jun-1995 12:38pm

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 03:23:09 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 22:23:09 -0500
Message-Id: <116348@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: Collins HF Amps FWD

Call him, not me!!!

From: paulkeys@aol.com (PAUL KEYS)
Subject: FOR SALE COLLINS 3 KW 2-30MHZ RF AMPLIFIERS
Date: 29 May 1995 18:13:32 -0400
Reply-To: paulkeys@aol.com (PAUL KEYS)

I have several Collins 208U-3 3-Kw 2-30Mhz RF Linier Amplifiers
that were recently removed from a USAF station here in California..

They were well maintained since installation in 1975 and are in excellent
condition. They could be used for radio amateur or commercial service.

They require only 0.2-watts to produce 3-Kw pep or average output. A
4CX3000A tube is used in the final stage. The primary power needed is 200
to
250v 3PH 47-60Hz.

These are automatically tuned with a servo system that takes about 10
seconds
to change frequency.

I can supply these superb units fully tested with manuals and guaranteed
ready to install at \$7500.00 crated price FOB California.

Please contact me for more details .

Paul Keys W6QDK
Phone: 800-737-9662
FAX: 805-386-2314

PAUL KEYS
CALIFORNIA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 00:56:00 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 19:56:00 -0500
Message-Id: <2FD4F825@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
Subject: RE: Crystal Detectors

>TOM.A.ADAMS wrote:

...

> The traditional crystal detector uses a chunk of semiconductor (galena,
>iron pyrite, etc.) which is cast into a small slug of metal. My first

thought

>was to make such a critter at my ammunition reloading bench, simply putting
>the detector material in the lead / tin / antimony mix that many
handloaders

>use for casting hard pistol bullets.

>

> Not good. It seems that the stuff overheats the detector material, and
it

>ain't a detector anymore.

>

> An OT told me that the old detectors were cast into metals with a much
>lower melting point than lead, like a few hundred degrees or so.

>

> I'm ashamed to admit that I just barely escaped from high school
chemistry

>with my hide. From it tho I do remember something about low melting point
>alloys; the name "Wood's Metal" seems to stick in my memory, and I think
there

>were a lot of others, some of which might be just the ticket for this
>application.

...

Wood's metal also used to be used for the gag teaspoon that would melt when
you stirred your hot beverage with it. They probably don't make those any
more because of the poison problem. There was always an admonition to not
drink the drink after the laughter subsided.

You don't need to have the galena crystal mounted in Wood's metal anyway -
any method of clamping it in place will work.

Larry Kenan

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:03:14 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:03:14 -0500

Message-Id: <9506061922.AA13562@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>

From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)

Subject: Crystal Sets

Be advised that there is a crystal set society. Here's their ad:

``The XTAL Set Society, now in its fifth year, is dedicated to building
and experimenting with radio electronics. Join the Xtal Set Society
and received 6 bi-monthly newsletters. Only \$9.95. Newsletter back
issues covered such topics as:

- *Hints on measuring coil capacities
- *Two building projects using Quaker Oats boxes
- *Info on home-brew headphones and curve tracers
- *Discussin on how crystal earphones work
- *Description and review of 10 basic crystal sets

The Crystal Set Handbook is available for \$10.95 + \$2.00 S&H.

The XTAL Set Society
P.O. Box 3026
St. Louis, MO 63130

All back issues are available.'

Jeff NH6IL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 11:44:16 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 06:44:16 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061140.AA05442@alpha>
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Subject: crystals, Wood's metal & guns!

Greetings, Anchorites, from a bright but overcast Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium!

Ahhhhh, Wood's metal, I remember it well! But sadly not the formula. So I consulted the standard reference work "The Handbook of Chemistry and Physics" - and it doesn't appear to have it either! Just like BA's being things from the past with a good bit of utility left in them, my OLD copy (1960) has all that stuff in, but it appears in a modern chemistry department, that info is surplus to requirements. I will search out the original Wood's metal recipe and let you know. I recall it contains lead, tin, bismuth and maybe cadmium (yuk) - in the meantime, a mixture of lead 40% and bismuth 60% melts at 126 deg C. Wood's metal you can melt with boiling water. The down side is that bismuth is expensive (as duck hunters may have cause to know) - but then, it may well be available as a reloading component i.e. bismuth shot, at a lower degree of chemical purity than used in laboratories, but none-the-less very acceptable for the making of low melting alloys. Toxicity-wise, it's fairly innocuous (must be, otherwise those folks with the knives out for the hunting fraternity wouldn't be so keen on it's adoption) So check out your local reloading supplier / gun shop and you may be able to get some bismuth shot for your experiments.

Tom Adams' comments re. the oxide coating on razor blades leads me to wonder,

since the BA list also includes several gun nuts (like me) whether the oxide coating produced by the various blueing/browning processes would also meet the requirements of a crude crystal detector. Now there's something to argue amongst aficionados, the pros and cons of a good old Smith & Wesson charcoal blue, or GI Colt 45 parkerising, or an old Damascus black powder gun in the guise of a stand-by radio receiver! I can just see someone traipsing round the woods with a pair of headphones connected to a favourite Winchester 70 . . pre-1963 of course.

Mind you, a single shot muzzle loading pistol carrying a squib charge of black might be just the thing for chucking heavy-gauge antenna wires over those REALLY TALL trees . . . kilowatts on Field Day no problem for the QRO enthusiast. Maybe next year, eh?!

TTFN,

Duncan GOUTY / ON9CHU G-QRP 8117

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 22:07:53 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 17:07:53 -0500
Message-Id: <9506062117.AA04016@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)
Subject: D-104 Silver Eagle Spotted (Who wanted one?)

Anchorites,

At a fest a couple of weeks ago, I spotted a D-104 Silver Eagle.

Who wanted one? I'll pass along the name and phone # I jotted down.

--

Roy Morgan, K1LKY 7130 Panorama Drive Derwood, MD 20855 Keep 'Em
Glowing!!

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 01:09:24 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 20:09:24 -0500
Message-Id: <AD73DD570E@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu>
From: RANDY@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu
Subject: Re: Dayton R-390 follow-up

Bill,

Ok on the capacitive reactance -- indeed I had one R-390A that blew GFCIs without fail; I might have thought that +/-OK except when I temporarily exchanged the normal filter for either of two styles of modern instrument cord input modules *with* LC RF filters built-in, there was no AC getting to ground.

I then contacted a buddy who works in a hospital electronics lab certifying leakage of various pieces of electronics. His take on it was that leakage is relative and that a wide range is/has historically been acceptable.

If so the real issue is where you draw the line! (so to speak) How much AC current flowing in the chassis under ungrounded conditions is acceptable? Of course using a 3-wire plug is proper, but under conditions where the ground becomes faulty by neglect, mischief, accident, etc, I really don't want to get zapped.

Perhaps there is an argument, in some cases, of violating authenticity for the sake of safety and replacing the original "working" filters for modern filters, at least for equipment which is used frequently.

=Randy=

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:33:02 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:33:02 -0500

Message-Id: <9506060800.0B9C300@24stex.com>

From: michael.moore@24stex.com

Subject: DO YOU USE YOUR BOATA

SL>Almost forgot what may be the most important piece. I put an S-38C in the SL>kitchen. My wife has it on, tuned to AM broadcast, constantly when she's in SL>the kitchen and says it sounds much better than the little modern plastic SL>ones, and she likes the glow of the dial lights (who am I to argue with that SL>- bless her).

SL>Bud... KE6DN...

Careful now! That S-38C is a neat little radio alright (was my first ever radio in 1955). But, it is an AC-DC radio and could spell trouble in the kitchen if you touch two of the wrong things at once. It can bite big time.

Mike..K6SQJ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:28:06 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:28:06 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506060850.A12533-01000000@indy3>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

Hi!

Do I use my boatanchors? A qualified yes:

The H/P AC & DC VTVMs are used often, as are the homebrew P-P '42 utility amp and bench power supply. The Millen 'scope is used a little, and will see more use in future. The "BA" telephone (late 30s), clock (ditto) and mill (1920s and in the shop--some things I won't even attempt) all get used frequently--that's why they're there!

The HRO-5TA, at present, is used for casual listening. The transmitters--three 'Shifters and an ST-202A--are *all* in varying states of disrepair. When I get one of 'em working, the set-up *will* be used on-air. (Wish me luck!) The 6L6 rig, driven by a Johnson 122 VFO, does work and I may be trying it out again soon, having got a (relay-type!) T/R switch about 99 percent done in the last few weeks. I'll likely end up hacking out an ATU for the set-up before too long; I have a couple of homebrew transmatches left over from earlier years but they're too modern-looking! <grin> There's also a nice breadboard transmitter still in the works. A late-30's multi-stage design (3 41's into P-P 42's), it was shelved while fixing up the HRO and fiddling with the 'Shifters.

Antennae remain a problem. Presently I've got about 50' of wire running up from a feedthrough in the basement window to the far corner of wall at roof level, where it hops around the corner and over the guttering up to an insulator on the chimney; sort of a reversed question-mark shape. With power lines on three sides of our postage stamp-size lot, there aren't many options! I can hear quite a few sigs so I'm hopeful it will load up and not be too ugly, but it's not a good length and probably won't work especially well.

I *do* have a CWist-freq crystal for the postwar Shifter,* and if I can get it running, look for me to show up some fine Friday night!

73,

--Bobbi

*The postwar version more-or-less includes the "Signal Spotter" xtal osc that was an add-on box for the prewar 'Shifters.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:16:36 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:16:36 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061513.KAA25741@audumla.students.wisc.edu>
From: cmthomp1@facstaff.wisc.edu (Clark M. Thompson)
Subject: DX-100 available

Hi gang,

Thanks to all who responded to my posting, "\$125 for a DX-100?" Although your responses were running about 4 to 1 in favor of me buying it, I ended up making the painful decision not to buy the old beast. I came to my senses and realized that I simply have no room for it the shack. And since I currently have a Valiant and a Ranger, I'm pretty well covered in the AM transmitter department. Not to mention that my wife and I are expecting a baby in September and funds will be tight.

Soooo, if anybody's interested in buying it themselves, the seller is:

Millard Christianson, WU9L
Sturgeon Bay, WI
(414) 743-1310

I'm already suffering from NON-buyers remorse!

73,

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:11:51 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:11:51 -0500
Message-Id: <58162.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: Fw: RE: B/A's in use

Somehow my reply didn't seem to be sent to the list so I'll try again. If it was sent but for some reason didn't echo to me --Please no flames.

In message Tue, 6 Jun 1995 08:59:16 -0500,
vmike@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Mike Veldman) writes:

>
> What a fun thread, I think I'll contribute. It seems like the
> majority of hams to visit my shack/lab always comment something
> to the effect: why do you have all this old equipment?

>
> vhf receiver, Nems Clarke vhf receiver, and for the baseband
> end of my weather sat system a Defense Electronics TMR-5 feeding

And I thought I had a lot! /but not the point. My interest is in the DEI TMR-5. My first job after electronics school (Capitol Radio Engineering Institute--Washington D.C.) was as a test technician with Defense Electronics. I did the alignment and final checkout on many a TMR-5 as well as the others TMR2A--TR102--GPR90--and others a can't remember after 26 years. The point--I was assigned stamp DEI-19 a round stamp with 19 in the center. I would be interested in knowing if I was the technician that aligned your TMR-5. My stamp should also be on the IF strips, the Video Amplifiers some of the detectors but not on the RF Tuning units the one module I didn't align. Still have a few of the spec sheets and maybe an odd instruction manual on some of the modules. Great receiver keep it going.

James C. Owen, III

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)

Bldg 225/B360

Gaithersburg, MD 20899

1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:26:02 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:26:02 -0500

Message-Id: <199506061421.KAA06836@service1.uky.edu>

From: wlfuqu00@service1.uky.edu (Bill Fuqua)

Subject: General Electronics transmitter

Looking for a General Electronics novice transmitter. This was my first novice rig. It had a crystal controlled 6CL6 oscillator, 807 final and 5U4 rectifier. One plug in coil link coupled to antenna. All above chassis parts exposed no shielding. Operated 80 and 70 meters about 75 watts plate input power. CW only.

73

Bill ko4ww

William L. Fuqua III P.E.

Department of Physics and Astronomy

CP-177 Chem. Phys. Bldg.
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Ky 40506-0055
E-mail WLFUQU00@POP.UKY.EDU
Phone (606) 257-4155

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:32:08 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:32:08 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061430.KAA07699@service1.uky.edu>
From: wlfuqu00@service1.uky.edu (Bill Fuqua)
Subject: General Electronics Transmitter

A correction to previous posting. This rig operated 80 and 40 Meters.

73
Bill ko4ww

William L. Fuqua III P.E.
Department of Physics and Astronomy
CP-177 Chem. Phys. Bldg.
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Ky 40506-0055
E-mail WLFUQU00@POP.UKY.EDU
Phone (606) 257-4155

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:14:37 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:14:37 -0500
Message-Id: <950606151101_71333.144_DHQ69-2@CompuServe.COM>
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Misc FS

For Sale

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.
412-234-8819 (weekdays, EST or leave a message anytime).
71333.144@compuserve.com

Military Bendix I-95AM Field Strength Meter covering 100-155mhz. Signal
Corps tagged with whip antenna and front panel guard. Black wrinkle
paint is nice except for panel guard. \$26

Jensen 500 ohm to 16 ohm "full range" audio transformer in black wrinkle case. Model Z-3097. New-in-original-box. \$46
73 Magazine "Index To Surplus". Covers 1945-1961 issues of 73, QST, CQ, Radio-Electronics and Electronics World. An indispensable military collectors' reference. Excellent. \$29
Clough-Brengle Model OC signal generator covering VLF through 30mhz. Circuit uses 2-36 tubes and 1-37 tube. Coil turret used for frequency range change. 30's-vintage I'd guess. 110vac. Black wrinkle in good shape. No mods and has original calibration chart. Really unique.
Military Manual TM-11-264A, TO-16-30-GRC26-15 "Radio Set AN/GRC-26A," dated 1953. RTTY mobile station using BC-610 and 2 R388 receivers. Very good original TM. \$33
Icom IC-211 all mode 2 meter transceiver. 10 watts. Works okay but has lots of little quirks--it loses the repeater offset whenever the power is turned off, the squelch is only active in the last 1/3 of the control's travel, the DIM display switch is broken, several controls are noisy. But it is working both transmit and receive in all modes--it's very usable as long as you can put up with all these annoyances. It looks good and has no significant scratches. Operates on 110vac or 12vdc but it has never been mobile and I don't have the 12 volt power cord. Includes AC cord, original

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 23:53:04 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 18:53:04 -0500
Message-Id: <F66I4855.F66I4905@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: More on crossbows

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Troops,

Since posting the first message, more points (no pun intended) came to me.

Someone else mentioned that his similar efforts with a crossbow attracted kids. RIGHT ON!!! I have a very similar problem here.

My antenna farm is in the center of town, and doesn't have fences around it. Worse, the previous owners let neighborhood kids play there. The first time we saw the place, there was a full blown baseball game going, with a LEAGUE BALL; the place has enough land to do it safely. On top of it, the a..hole City Councilman next door suggested, right after we'd moved in, that we DONATE my beautiful antenna-farm-to-be to the City as a park! Because of my three word reply to that suggestion, the Alderman and I don't speak much anymore...

Fencing is a financial impossibility at this point; estimates on chain link

so far have run \$8000 - \$12000, and that much chain link would make the place look like a penitentiary.

To deal with the kids, I've had to turn into "Mister Nasty" and run them out but that (predictably) has had only limited success.

In any event, because of the kid problem I've had to limit use of the crossbow to just after dawn, before the little darlings get up. Even that's a hassle because early one morning I found two teenagers struggling into their clothes under the walnut tree that I was about to shoot a line into!

Even with modified bolts, NO audience should be allowed in the shooting area! The power that a crossbow can dispense, even a small one, is VERY DANGEROUS! The blunted bolts I use, if aimed at a human being, would probably make a nastier wound than either a field point or razorhead.

As an example of the power level we're talking about, consider my first test shot after obtaining the crossbow. I fired indoors (garage) at 2 panels of 3/4" marine plywood, 35 feet away. A field point went thru them like they weren't there, proceeded thru 3/4" of particleboard wall, 1.5" of styrofoam insulation, another 3/4" of particle board, the wood siding outside, and finally stopped with the plastic fletching half torn away on the first plywood sheet, and the majority of the bolt's length waving in the breeze outside of the garage.

Tho it seems like this is grossly too powerful for the job of launching an antenna line, it's not. Towing a cord behind saps the bolt's energy very quickly, as I found with the small pistol-type crossbow I tried (using fishing line) initially. With the pistol, I found the practical tree height limit to be about 35 feet, and the energy loss was so great that there was no accuracy; getting a line over the limb you wanted was sheer luck. Besides that, the bolt a pistol fired was so light that it frequently wouldn't carry enough line down the other side of the tree to put it within reach.

I got kinda uneasy after posting the last one on this, especially after the reminder of the kid problem. Hopefully, this message will make me feel a bit better.

Just remember, potential users, you've been warned.

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:01:32 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:01:32 -0500
Message-Id: <199506062059.NAA07195@ix2.ix.netcom.com>

From: w00gh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)
Subject: re my shack

My shack is now well toned down. I have had them stood against the wall and decided its to hot here in AZ. to have all that heat produced in an 8X10 room. So, I presently utilize just a 75A-2 and Viking II with 122 VFO as my main BA rig. Its nice and clean and sounds pretty good. read no mods. Fits on top of the big wooden desk I liberated from ma bells sale years ago. I also have some BC-453 units for listening to to LF terminal forcasts and long skip on winter evenings. You know most of them only run 25 or so watts into real short antennas. A newly found RAX-1 with dynamotor that is so quiet I can't tell its running for listening to the BC band as well as beacons. A BC-312N that i made out of 2 units for general SWL work when I don't have the SX-28 hooked up. grunt. On the transmit side a pair of BC-610's in the garage so that when the wx is comfortable I can operate from there. Besides there is one heck of a big ground available close by. Not a lot but I decided to share some BA's with other hams as the supply seemed to be getting low and the prices high. Besides I can only operate one rig at a time.

Larry W00GH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:46:30 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:46:30 -0500
Message-Id: <m0sJ6GH-0006WnC@next1.acme.ist.ucf.edu>
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: Mystery Antenna

I spotted an AS-1811/UR.
It appeared to be an aircraft antenna inside a 4 foot long
lozenge shaped fiberglass housing with an N-connector.

Looks like a good hurricane proof antenna if the coverage
is useful.

Anyone know what it is?

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:55:20 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:55:20 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>

From: William_Sievers-LWS005@email.mot.com
Subject: National NC-300 For Sale

I have a friend who has her dad's old NC-300 for sale. She wants \$100 for it and it looks like it's basically ok but needs to be cleaned up. The manual is also included. Her name is Mary and can be reached in the evenings at 401-334-0022. She cannot ship the unit, but will make arrangements for a pick up in the Boston area.

Bill
KC1HP

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 17:51:25 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 12:51:25 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061748.NAA27471@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
From: Damon Z Cassell <dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu>
Subject: Re: National NC-300 For Sale

> I have a friend who has her dad's old NC-300 for sale. She wants \$100 for it
> and it looks like it's basically ok but needs to be cleaned up. The manual is
> also included. Her name is Mary and can be reached in the evenings at
> 401-334-0022. She cannot ship the unit, but will make arrangements for a pick
> up in the Boston area.
>
> Bill
> KC1HP

This may sound like a crazy question, but as a new BA'er I will humbly ask anyways...(bowing head)...is the NC-300 a RX or TX?

I've already started my collection off with a Johnson Ranger that I have restored and a Viking II that is currently in progress. I am looking for a decent BA receiver, could this be the one?

Being in the Boston area, and not being often capable of finding gear, I'd be interested in hearing what exactly the NC-300 is.

Thanks

(humbly) yours,

Damon Cassell, WU1T
dcassell@lynx.dac.neu.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:26:22 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:26:22 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950606111228.12997A-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Mike Cizek wrote:

> I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told
> can be used to provide QSK operation with seperate transmitter/
> receiver setups. I'd really like to find a manual for this and
> would like any info anyone can provide me.

Mike,

I have one too. There's not much to know. Just plug the transmitter, receiver, and antenna in and apply AC power. I'm not sure exactly what the probe signal is or what it's for however. (Maybe somebody reading this does and will tell us both!) Anyway, it's very similar to the "Electronic Transmit-Receive Switches" described in the older ARRL Handbooks. I'm looking at the piece about it on page 255 of the 1964 edition. Check the index for "T-R Switches".

I also have a Dow-Key of simialr design, but it's without the AC power supply and requires 250 vdc and 6.3 ac for the filament. I used one of those for several years back in the late 1950's with good success.

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 17:49:47 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 12:49:47 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061748.AA29075@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

>
>On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Mike Cizek wrote:
>

>> I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told
>> can be used to provide QSK operation

Anchorites,

I checked my TR switch. It is marked "4000 Watts Peak". The tubes are a 6BL7 octal dual triode and a 6X4 7-pin rectifier. The ads on the back of my Viking II manual of 1962 confirm the 4000 watts peak number.

Sooo ... Is the peak value of a killowatt AM signal 4000 watts?

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 17:57:59 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 12:57:59 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950606134736.6173B-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

On Tue, 6 Jun 1995, Brien Pepperdine wrote:

> My guess, without having seen one, is that the probe signal is to go off
> to some thing like an osc'scope. Do I win?

Hi Brian,

Gee whiz... Your guess is as good as mine. I've had one of these things since the mid-1950's, but I never had a book, so I haven't the foggiest notion wha comes out. It's just a standard sized pin jack that looks like what you'd stick your VOM probe into.

73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 18:10:25 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 13:10:25 -0500

Message-Id: <9506061802.AA29212@orion.crd.ge.com>
From: mallick@orion.crd.ge.com (John Mallick)
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

If I recall the schematic from mine, the "probe" signal is coupled via a small disc capacitor directly to the transmitter RF line; it is held at DC ground via an RF choke.

Yep, they're good for 4000W peak.

73, John WA1HNL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 18:19:04 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 13:19:04 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950606131728.grant@nq5t>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

>>
>>On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Mike Cizek wrote:
>>
>>> I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told
>>> can be used to provide QSK operation
>
>
>Anchorites,
>
>I checked my TR switch. It is marked "4000 Watts Peak". The tubes are a
>6BL7 octal dual triode and a 6X4 7-pin rectifier. The ads on the back of my
>Viking II manual of 1962 confirm the 4000 watts peak number.
>
>Sooo ... Is the peak value of a killowatt AM signal 4000 watts?
>
>-- Roy --
>Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
>(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)
>301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov
>---
>
>

1KW of carrier 100% modulated has a PEP of 4KW.

Grant/NQ5T -- Double Oak, TX

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 19:04:53 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:04:53 -0500
Message-Id: <50539.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

In message Tue, 6 Jun 1995 12:49:51 -0500,
morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan) writes:

>
>>
>> On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Mike Cizek wrote:
>>
>>
>>> I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told
>>> can be used to provide QSK operation
>>>
>
>
> Anchorites,
>
> I checked my TR switch. It is marked "4000 Watts Peak". The tubes are a
> 6BL7 octal dual triode and a 6X4 7-pin rectifier. The ads on the back of
> my Viking II manual of 1962 confirm the 4000 watts peak number.
>
> Sooo ... Is the peak value of a killowatt AM signal 4000 watts?
>

YES but just remember that was 4000 watts peak OUTPUT. If you ever got to
that you were illegal since 1000 watts DC input was the limit--Oh for the
good ole days

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 23:00:51 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 18:00:51 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950606155433.12319B-100000@crl8.crl.com>
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Need SP-600-JX17 schematic

This modification has provisions for external HFO and BFO, plus a couple
of additional rotary switches on the front panel. I need a schematic.
Would be nice to locate a manual and/or information on how the

JX17 modification worked. I have a basic Sp-600- JX manual, but it tells me nothing about the JX17 version. thanks

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:21:32 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:21:32 -0500
Message-Id: <950606111445_87864879@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Old BA haunts

Anyone remember SASCO in Alexandria, VA and RITCO in Annandale, VA? When I lived in Alexandria back in the early 70s, these were my favorite places to visit.

Both always had an excellent assortment of mil surplus stuff. Bill Ritter (of RITCO) and I got to be pretty good friends. I still think about him. He closed down his shop a year before I moved back to Tennessee. It was a sad day. Quite a few of the mil tech manuals that I presently have come via RITCO.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:41:46 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:41:46 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061633.MAA21794@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us>
From: afpgreg@gatekeeper.ddp.state.me.us (Paul V. Gregory)
Subject: Re: Old BA haunts

Ahoy,

For we New Yorkers, nothing upstages G & G Electronics and the whole Canal Street scene of the late 60's, early 70's. Sometimes, unexpectantly, a whiff of musty, damp air takes me right back to row upon row of 390s and ART 13s stacked on wooden skids. There was a part of my teenage years well spent!

--Paul

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 17:42:18 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 12:42:18 -0500

Message-Id: <49191.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: RE: Old BA haunts

In message Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:21:37 -0500, JosephWP@aol.com writes:

> Anyone remember SASCO in Alexandria, VA and RITCO in Annandale, VA? When I
> lived in Alexandria back in the early 70s, these were my favorite places
> to visit.

>

> Both always had an excellent assortment of mil surplus stuff. Bill Ritter
> (of RITCO) and I got to be pretty good friends. I still think about him.
> He closed down his shop a year before I moved back to Tennessee. It was a
> sad day. Quite a few of the mil tech manuals that I presently have come
> via RITCO.

>

I remember both but only visited each a few times before they went under.
There was also a surplus outlet in Kensington, MD about the same time.
Don't remember the name or when they shut down but was sometime in the 70's.
I wonder! would this business, these days, be a good retirement business???

Have 3 years and 10 months to go.

James C. Owen, III

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)

Bldg 225/B360

Gaithersburg, MD 20899

1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 18:01:04 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 13:01:04 -0500
Message-Id: <PMX-TERM-2.02-bsm2ee1-thaake-227>
From: thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake)
Subject: RE: Old BA Haunts

I enjoy reading about some of the BA haunts that I routinely see ads for in the old magazines.

I was borned and raised in the St.Louis area and at the age of 13 made one trip to the Walter Ashe store in downtown. I remember purchasing 2 novice crystals from a selection hanging on a wall. This was in 1963 and I had just received my novice ticket. There were many pieces of used equipment as well as what seemed in my novice eye to be any part required to build a complete transmitter or receiver.

I recently looked at the remains of a ham estate (you may recall my query on

what vintage X-Rays machines are going for these days) and on the desk along with stacks of log books was a Walter Ashe catalog. It was of resonable size and as I paged through it I was amazed at the depth of selection of new ham gear.

Now a days to be a dealer one has to "put up" \$100K or more in stock just to land one brand name. No wonder ham stores are dinosaurs and access to new equipment (for those who might want it) have gone the route of the 1-800 mega store concept.

Shortly after I purchased those crystals Walter Ashe converted to a "Radio Shack Franchisee" and sometime after that disappeared altogether.

The "Ham Radio Center" of St. Louis was started by Bill Dubough (I know I butchered his last name and his call escapes me) who was the manager of Walter Ashes ham radio department. Walter Ashe apparently had roots other than ham. I remember the "Ham Radio Center" well but it was small. They were hit heavy by others who turned to the 1-800 system of business so they joined the fracuss and eventually bit the dust too.

Of all back in the late 50s/early 60s that I have faint recollection of and that still exist (and in St. Louis) it is Gateway Electronics. Gateway got it's start down on Delmar St. in one of those converted alley buildings. You had to walk sideways to get from the front to the back and be willing to move numerous BAs to get to the prize you wanted. Boy, bury me when I die in that mess pull-ezze.... Gateway's MIL surplus was good but as that dried up they kept alive my supplying parts on top of parts and used test equipment. Ten or more years ago at least they branched out and have stores in Colorado, Texas, and California. According to Stew Gillom (last name again?) that had been one of his best moves in that it brought him "buying power". He would be forced to by large quantities to get good pricing and multiple stores gave him the outlet for a ga-zillion .01uf caps or whatever. Gateway has since started selling Alinco and other major rice gear so there's one for the Gipper I guess.

Anyway has anyone out there in BA land had any experiences with Walter Ashe or Bill Dubough at the "Ham Radio Center" or perhaps Gateway back in the days when Gateway had pure heavenly MIL SPEC junk??

Tim WA0TSY
thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:37:43 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:37:43 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061435.AA323869@rs2.ccd.harris.com>
From: dsnowden@ccd.harris.com (Doug Snowden)

Subject: Old ER and Old Timer Issues

I have just obtained a pile of back-issues of ER mag and "Old Timer" mags. After I have scanned them (theres maybe 150 or them) I'll be willing to let them go for the cost of postage to first comer. With no promise as to when I will ship them, as I am feeling lazy lately. You pay postage. If I don't reply in the affirmative to your email, assume they are taken already please.... This is part of the stuff that Ray was getting rid of. He says he hasn't gotten any takers off the net for his garage sale, so I assume Palm Bay, Fl is too foar for most to drive for pick-up....

73 Doug, N4IJ dsnowden@ccd.harris.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:19:16 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:19:16 -0500
Message-Id: <2FD49B60@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>
From: "Gable, Edward M" <emg@rfpo2.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: Original BA Station Setup

Regarding the thread on BA's in use, I took great pride in building and using an all original late 30's station where everything was original and correct for the period. The radio stuff was easy; Airplane dial Signal Shifter driving home brew 808, HRO and RME69 RX. Now the fun stuff; original QSL cards (New York in 8th district), 1939 calendar (1939 is same as 1995) original RCA World Radio Map, correct era bankers lamp, vintage table fan (no air condx), correct pre-war log book, a pad of real pulp jotting paper, a fountin pen, an oak desk chair of the right period, a small desk thermometer advertising the Chrysler AirFlow, an ash tray (nobody is allowed to smoke or use it) advertising Atwater-Kent, an ARRL Operating Guidebook dated 1938, a wall chart of Amateur Frequencies (no phone on 40 meters) issued by Bliley Xtals, and my favorite correctness - a lead pencil, sharpened by pen knife, ofcourse. This was a lot of fun to set up and draws lots of comments. Works, too !!

Regards,

Ed K2MP @ Rochester
emg@rfc.comm.harris.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:12:18 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:12:18 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061512.AA21369@bobcat.etsu.edu>
From: wier@bobcat.etsu.edu (Bob Wier)
Subject: pyrite

If anyone gets into making thier own detectors, I can suggest a few suppliers of pyrite crystals (or I might even be able to mail out a few small ones for postage - the mine dumps around here are full of 'em). Unfortunately, they are pretty small. The days of walking out to a tailings pond and finding fist sized crystals are gone (too much rockhounding!), but I can probably turn up some big enough to get a cat's whisker on.

Probably easier just to buy one, though, since I've got a ton of things to do here once the snow melts off enough to get into the high country. But if you're not in too much of a hurry :-)

THANKS

==== Round Up the Usual Disclaimers! =====
Bob Wier, keeper of the Photo-3D, Icom radio (WB5KXH),
Overland Trails, and Motorola HC11 mailing lists
wier@bobcat.etsu.edu

currently in Ouray, Co at 8,000 ft. elevation
(this is a *high level* system :-)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:18:43 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:18:43 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061416.AA13282@staples.lbl.gov>
From: staples@staples.lbl.gov (John Staples)
Subject: Re: R-390 Factory Miswired?

>
> No idea why your line-out meter isn't reading. Probably the least important
> feature on an R390A, except to impress vistoris to the shack with it pumping
> away on the audio peaks. Unless you're feeding a RTTY TU, of course :-)
> --mike k w9nrd
>

It is very common that the horizontally-mounted resistor on the back of the line out meter sensitivity switch becomes bad. Try bridging it with another

resistor of a few thousand ohms and see whether the meter deflects.

...John, W6BM

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:59:46 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:59:46 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950606164322.18166E-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: R-390 Paint Color

Hi again...

I have just returned from the Sherwin Williams store and they did a pretty good job of matching the original paint color on the R-390 cabinet. FYI, you can go to your friendly SW dealer and order up White 48/32, Black 40/32 in Base R Neutral #8445-99993 ("Decorator Colors" satin enamel, alkyd) and save dragging your boatanchor to the store. It's about \$8 a quart.

I mentioned that I was going to share this information and the store manager cautioned that the paint lots will vary in color slightly, but even so, that'll still be pretty close to the original.

73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:22:17 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:22:17 -0500
Message-Id: <1B27E6C0B2A@s1.xetron.com>
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: R-390A Line Filter

Dear BA enthusiasts,

Richard was talking about an R390A leaky AC line filter. Let me tell you what happened to my R-390A.

I bought my Collins R-390A about a year ago. After repairing a defective B+ bypass cap in the vfo, I was planning to go through an alignment. Power had been applied intermittently for a week

or so, with a total of maybe 25 hours of operation.

My radio room is adjacent to the radio shop. The 390A was sitting on a work bench in the shop, turned off, but with AC power on the cord.

I was sitting in the radio room, when I heard this "whooooosshhhhh errrrrrnnnnnnn" sound. I rushed in to find black smoke billowing from the R-390A! My latest treasure had blown up :(After the smoke cleared and I examined the underside, I discovered that the AC line filter had turned into a smoke bomb. The filter case was expanded outward in all directions. Luckily, the R-390A has walls between sections which confined the smoke to the center of the receiver and the top of the work bench, so the restoration process only took about an hour.

I have a grounded power plug on the R-390A, which IMHO, is a requirement. But, there is NO fuse between the line cord and the filter... Thus, when the filter blew, it got AC power until the insides of the filter stopped conducting.

I replaced the filter from another 390A, and put two of the LittleFuse brand wire lead 4 amp fuses in series with the power cord under that cover that goes over the filter terminals.

Jack

73,

=====
Jack, WB8BFS
jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:34:34 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:34:34 -0500
Message-Id: <1B2B28D2442@s1.xetron.com>
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: Re: R-390A PTO end-point adjustment feedback

Dear BA enthusiasts,

I discovered that I could make end point adjustments on my Collins R-390A without removing anything other than the threaded hole cover. I have a long, thin screw driver that allows me to get to the adjustment screw. When I replace the hole cover, I put some putty on the end of the screwdriver blade to

aid in getting the cover back on.

Jack

73,

=====

Jack, WB8BFS

jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)

=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:59:33 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:59:33 -0500

Message-Id: <9506061657.AA11416@ihurry.ih.att.com>

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com

Subject: Re: R-390A VFO endpoint adjustment

I also have a question about the R390A PTO adjustment.

I think the manual says to remove the PTO so as to remove a little plug cover over the end-point trimmer, then put the PTO back in the rcvr to do the adjustments.

Then they expect you to remove it again and replace the plug!

Is that last step necessary? Or should I treat this exactly like the "Govt" plugs on late-model carburetors, that cover up the idle adjustments, and once removed, should be thrown as far as possible in an overgrown field?

That is, can I leave the plug cover off and just keep it in a bag with any other original parts of the set?

BTW, I mechanically adjusted the coupling to my PTO last night so it now reads right-on at XX.400 MC. Funny thing though, the errors at other 100-KC calibration points seem to be slightly different on different bands. Theoretically that's impossible, but maybe the radio can't read :-)

--mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:41:47 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:41:47 -0500

Message-Id: <199506061438.HAA04607@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)

Subject: Radio heat

Over the years I've been told that heat is the killer in electronic equipment. I agree. However what I can't understand is that if this was *common* knowledge, why did hams continue to mount their heat

generators in closed cabinets, consoles etc? I feel reasonably sure they did not all include fans for air circulation and positioning of dust bags in corners. Was this not the problem as I suspect or is the fact that the smaller power transformers that we now see fail so much would not do so if adequate circulation of air was available?

Larry W00GH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:03:53 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:03:53 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061501.LAA73911@ee.duke.edu>
From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>
Subject: Re: Radio heat

- Larry -

You made an excellent observation. Radio equipment did seem to be long-lived in rack cabinets and other containers. Now the smaller power transformers are given to failing. One reason is that the power line voltages have risen from 110 V past 117 V (usual electronic equipment rating) to 120 V, even 125 to 127 V. The smaller transformers are a bit shy on iron and the extra voltage pushes the available airon pretty far out on the B-H curve with attendant high magnetizing (^ word here is iron) current and more $I^2 R$ heating. I use an autotransformer on equipment I want to keep running and bring the line voltage back to the 105 - 110 V range. Filament transformers are great for this purpose.

73 Rhett George - KE4HIH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:36:12 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:36:12 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com
Subject: RE>RE- Spray Painting

RE>RE: Spray Painting

6/6/95

My opinion:

Never paint anything you care about with a Wagner paint-dribbler. Buy a good Binks model 7 and you can expect much better results. After all, that's probably what the piece was painted with to begin with.

>What's the best way to paint the cabinet?

>

>Thanks & 73,

>

>Tony

>K4KY0=20

>

I got just the opposite when looking for a way to use Hammerite to refinish a rack cabinet. Was told that the spray can was the way to go.

Well ... variable results, even with a great deal of care. If I had it to do over, I'd have the cabinet stripped and professionally done at great expense.

Had heard that Hammerite gives a good finish, and if you get it just right -- it does. Problem is it smells ... and smells ... and smells ... I have cured the cabinet several weeks in the hot Texas sun and it STILL smells I'm about to write the company to see if they have some kind of "anti-smell" solution.

Grant/NQ5T - Double Oak, TX

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:44:00 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:44:00 -0500

Message-Id: <9506062340.22615.ae@SMROUTER.AAC.COM>

From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM

Subject: Re[2]: Q: FW rect... [vancleef]

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Hank,

I thoroughly enjoyed your post, including the, er, grumbling. On occasion, I encounter frustrations in the computer software biz analogous to those you had with power supply design. It's humbling and educational to be surrounded by the experienced in another technical arena.

When one is competent and experienced, it is sometimes difficult to appreciate, much less understand, that with which the less well-equipped must contend. The following notwithstanding, please don't change one bit - I like you the way you are. You and others mapped the road that I will eventually be

able to follow.

> Any of the standard EE texts by Terman, Seely, Kerchner and Corcoran, etc.
> discuss filter networks... You will want to know the source impedance (the
> rectifier and the transformer winding), the load impedance (ohms represented
> by the load on B+)...

I have managed to assemble a decent library (never finished with that!) in anticipation of being able to fully understand and use it. However, in this room is a hamfest-special transformer with no useful markings or printed specs and a Rat Shack full-wave rectifier (the impedance of the two is...?), and an ART-13 for which I don't yet know how to calculate its filament and autotune power input impedance (the 24V part), nor whether that impedance changes when the autotune's a-tuning.

The books aren't yet directly applicable, because they involve values which I'm not yet competent to determine. Others' power supply designs for this application are available, but I can't get the same components they used, nor do I know how to properly adjust the design given the components I *can* get.

That's that with which I must contend. One must take a first step. Mine is to learn as much as I can from you and the books, then build a power supply which I'm reasonably confident won't torch the transformer or the ART-13, learn directly from *that*, and apply that new knowledge to the next iteration. Bootstrapping. Worked like gangbusters for me with software, it'll do the same for electronics.

Actually, I don't know what a properly-powered ART-13 is like! While grappling with an AC-powered supply, I obtained (with K4KY0's advice) a pair of 12V, deep-cycle marine batteries. This will reduce the variables. There will be an ART-13 here with pure DC to its filaments, *if* this ART-13 is functional (another unknown). When the AC-powered supply is ready, any difference in the ART-13 will point to the new supply. I can deal with things at this level.

An engineer would approach this entirely differently, of course, but then I have something most practicing engineer's don't: time. This may take months or a year. There's no deadline and no future assembly line for this design, just a desire to learn and a radio to protect and preserve. Proceeding slowly but surely is the luxury of a hobby.

This whole process is, to me, thrilling, and I am grateful for your help along the way.

73 de KC4EWT (Herndon VA)
Johnson_Dan@aac.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 22:57:01 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 17:57:01 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950606155330.12319A@crl8.crl.com>
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: source for 5814A tubes

Where would be a good source for these tubes ? What is a good substitute ?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 01:28:46 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 20:28:46 -0500
Message-Id: <950606212651_63436073@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: source for 5814A tubes

12AU7s work just fine in most all circuits as the 5814A is just a mil spec version of that tube.

If you need some, let me know as I have 5814As at \$ 3.60 each plus shipping.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:16:02 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:16:02 -0500
Message-Id: <9506062013.AA21606@pulsar.genrad.com>
From: dcl@genrad.com (Deke C. Lightfoot)
Subject: SP-600 and other topics

I'm sorry to hear that I'm not the only one going through the swapout of all the tubulars in a SP-600. I just acquired a SP600-JX with rather lousy AVC and audio. So far, 8 of 10 tubular caps have been cracked lengthwise down the body, although in the chassis, they looked good and checked OK. I presume they are leaky regardless of the check. Since this is my first 600, I wonder if I am being too critical of the audio, it seems to need to be half way up the power curve before the distortion is gone.

For my BA gear, which is modest in comparison to the battleship crowd here, I use a patch panel which allows use of all gear in any combo, with only a cable and switch rotation...nothing fancy, but the patch panel is the only way out of complicated, and disaster prone switching arrangements. (IMHO).

Station 1 KWM-2 homebrew Link-coupled tuner to a Zepp.

Station 2 B & W 5100 // HQ129-X

Station 3 Ranger II // R-390A

Station 4 Challenger // BC-779

Station 5 TS-850//Dovetron MPC1000 //

All this gear is used at least weekly when it isnt open on the bench. The SP600 about fills up the racks..so I will call it quits until something goes.

BTW, I have a 129X parts radio and a Challenger parts radio sans power transformer, pi-net output coil, and meter if anyone is in need of particular parts for a restoration.

73 Deke AA6DF dcl@genrad.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:35:10 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:35:10 -0500

Message-Id: <d0aTij2000000000000@MHS>

From: RICHARD_HUMPHREY@hp5200.desk.hp.com

Subject: RE: SP600 restoration

Item Subject: SP600 restoration help query

>how to get inside the RF deck (the front end thats mounted on

I used to have a JX-21. Never took the RF deck off the chassis, It's supposed to be a real job.

I've heard the trick is to turn the bandswitch to 1/2 way between band positions. Then unsolder all the wires, remove the screws or whatever holds it down, and lift it off.

Good luck!

Richard

N6NAE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:04:10 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:04:10 -0500
Message-Id: <01HRDTCHK0TU8ZEWKV@tntech.edu>
From: cfm5723@tntech.edu (Conard Murray)
Subject: SP600 restoration help query

Hello all ... I am working on a SP600JX14 and presently occupied with replacing the infamous black caps. Of the dozen or so I have already pulled, none were shorted but several had already developed cracks in the cases. I want to know how to get inside the RF deck (the front end thats mounted on the tuning cap box) to replace the caps residing inside. It looks like a pretty difficult operation with a bunch of physical dismantling required... any others out there with experiences to share?
Also, I was wondering if all the MIL versions went thru the MFP treatment? Mine was treated in 1960 and the front panel got covered in the goop. Really hard stuff to get off. Also, my rig has the gold plated tuning cap.
Thanks and 73 de Conard WS4S

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 18:08:52 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 13:08:52 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950606135102.6173C-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Spray Painting

I visited the Sherwin-Williams store this afternoon to try and match the paint to refinsh my recently acquired and long sought after R-390 cabinet.=20

The store folks took some solvent and went through the layers of paint to the original color and are at this moment working to match the color.=20 That was necessary since needless to say, there was nothing in a spray can that comes even close to a match.=20

Anyway, I seem to have three options to spray paint the cabinet. (1) I can get an aerosol sprayer gadget that has an outboard propellent and a glass jar paint reservoir, (2) I can invest in a Wagner paint sprayer, or (3) I can go to a rental center and rent a real paint spray gun.=20

I went to Home Depot to inquire about the Wagner sprayer, but amazingly the guy at the store talked me out of it. He said that it's good for painting outside stuff, but it doesn't give a good enough finish for a metal cabinet and suggested that I get automotive paint in a spray can at an auto parts store. The salesman in the Sherwin Williams store disagreed and said that the Wagner gun will give a better finish than a spray can.

What's the best way to paint the cabinet?

Thanks & 73,

Tony
K4KY0=20

<=FCras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 18:43:06 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 13:43:06 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950606133959.grant@nq5t>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: RE: Spray Painting

snip ..

>I went to Home Depot to inquire about the Wagner sprayer, but amazingly
>the guy at the store talked me out of it. He said that it's good for
>painting outside stuff, but it doesn't give a good enough finish for a
>metal cabinet and suggested that I get automotive paint in a spray can at
>an auto parts store. The salesman in the Sherwin Williams store disagreed
>and said that the Wagner gun will give a better finish than a spray can.

>

>What's the best way to paint the cabinet?

>

>Thanks & 73,

>

>Tony

>K4KY0=20

>

I got just the opposite when looking for a way to use Hammerite to refinish a rack cabinet. Was told that the spray can was the way to go.

Well ... variable results, even with a great deal of care. If I had it to do over, I'd have the cabinet stripped and professionally done at great expense.

Had heard that Hammerite gives a good finish, and if you get it

just right -- it does. Problem is it smells ... and smells ...
and smells ... I have cured the cabinet several weeks in the hot
Texas sun and it STILL smells I'm about to write the company
to see if they have some kind of "anti-smell" solution.

Grant/NQ5T - Double Oak, TX

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 19:07:53 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:07:53 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061906.0AA05218@zoom.bga.com>
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Spray Painting

As Tony Stalls said

>

(much trimmed)

> Anyway, I seem to have three options to spray paint the cabinet. (1) I
> can get an aerosol sprayer gadget that has an outboard propellent and a
> glass jar paint reservoir, (2) I can invest in a Wagner paint sprayer, or
> (3) I can go to a rental center and rent a real paint spray gun.=20
>
> What's the best way to paint the cabinet?

>

Tony, if you are going to spray paint, there is nothing like a good
DeVilbiss paint sprayer, a shop air supply with regulator to feed it,
and hands that use this equipment daily.

All those things are readily available at any good body shop. Make
some friends around one, supply the paint and cabinet prepared for
painting, and wait for results. Find the guy who does serious painting
(like complete repaints) and talk to him directly.

A suitable lubricant to help facilitate getting results is a six-pack
of beer in a cooler in most cases.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 19:48:29 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:48:29 -0500

Message-Id: <9506061936.AA17221@etn.com>

From: doonan@cordmc.dnet.etn.com (Dennis Doonan x6916 (N9VSL))

Subject: RE: Spray Painting

Forget the Wagner!! (Unless you only care about color and not finish.

"Real" spray guns are tricky, but not too bad if you practice first.

Another option, and one I have used, is get the paint, and go to a good auto body shop and have them spray it for you. It'll cost you a couple buck, or a case of beer, but the finish should be professional.

This is of course, my humble opinion, but I have spent a fair amount of time spraying and airbrushing. It is an acquired skill not all are willing to take the time to learn.

73 all, Dennis, N9VSL

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:06:34 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:06:34 -0500

Message-Id: <802471506@f15.n340.z1.ftn>

From: Mike Davey <Mike.Davey@f15.n340.z1.fidonet.org>

Subject: Spray Painting

TS> I went to Home Depot to inquire about the Wagner sprayer, but amazingly
TS> the guy at the store talked me out of it. He said that it's good for
TS> painting outside stuff, but it doesn't give a good enough finish for a
TS> metal cabinet and suggested that I get automotive paint in a spray can at
TS> an auto parts store. The salesman in the Sherwin
TS> Williams store disagreed
TS> and said that the Wagner gun will give a better finish than a spray can.

TS> What's the best way to paint the cabinet?

I would suggest you go down to your local model hobbyist store and pick up a small airbrush.

You should be able to get one at a reasonable price.

Mike

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:30:31 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:30:31 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506061559.A20202-0100000@indy3>

From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>

Subject: Re: Spray Painting

Hi!

Tony asked about spray-painting methods for custom-mixed paint. Purists will say the only way to go is with a pro-type setup, a la Earl Scheib, and they are probably right.

However, Tandy Leather stores stock a neat little gadget, a can of propellant and a thick glass jar that screws on to the bottom of it. While it's meant for spray-dyeing leather (giving a more even appearance), it will work fine with most enamel paint; you might have to thin some varieties a bit.

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:34:24 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:34:24 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950606162020.18166A-100000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Spray Painting

Hi Hank,

> Tony, if you are going to spray paint, there is nothing like a good
> DeVilbiss paint sprayer, a shop air supply with regulator to feed it,
> and hands that use this equipment daily.
>
> All those things are readily available at any good body shop. Make
> some friends around one, supply the paint and cabinet prepared for
> painting, and wait for results. Find the guy who does serious painting
> (like complete repaints) and talk to him directly.

Sigh... That's a good plan and my compulsive side tells me that's what I should do, but the side that just had all the gutters and downspouts on my house replaced earlier today says that might not be an option right now. I don't suppose that it hurts to ask.

> A suitable lubricant to help facilitate getting results is a six-pack
> of beer in a cooler in most cases.

Is that applied before or after the job? ;^)

Thanks Hank & 73,

Tony
K4KY0

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:15:02 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:15:02 -0500
Message-Id: <PMX-TERM-2.02-bsm2ee1-thaake-233>
From: thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake)
Subject: RE: Spray Painting

Tony,

I will share with you my exploits with painting and you can decide if any of it can be made to fit your situation.

My first choice for total cabinet refinishing is paint shot from a HVLP spray gun. High Velocity Low Pressure spray guns have become popular due to improvements in the spray gun itself as well as federal mandates slowly being imposed on companies requiring their use (EPA for one).

Many bennies when using the HVLP but if you don't have the access to that type a conventional bleeder or non-bleeder gun driven by a small compressor/tank should work well from the necessary equipment perspective. I don't care how good anyone is with that gold plated gun, if you haven't taken some basic precautions with the environment you'll have less than professional results. Your garage has many things waiting to prove me right! More on that if interested some other time.

The airless variety of paint spraying I have little experience with. I used it once on the coarse "Razor Back" fiberglass cloth on an airplane to spray on dope which is very heavy bodied. Airless machines are super for that and it worked great. I would think that it might not perform satisfactory for what you are intending to do. If you must, ask around and borrow one. See what happens with it. If you intend on shooting heavy bodied paints such as the Hammerite "Hammer Tone" or wrinkle the Wagner might work. Both the Hammerite and wrinkles lose their "hammer" and their "wrinkle" when they are thinned out enough to pass through a standard professional gun. Back to the HVLP gun. It can get the job done correctly.

The small "air brush" units that use a small compressor or can of propellant are too small in my opinion for that size of work. I have several units ranging from a no-name thru an expensive DeVilbiss only use them for touch-up on something I do not intend to do a full strip and refinish. If I lived in a tourist town and had any art talent I'd do t-shirts with em.

I use spray bombs on lots of things that are not demanding a first rate finish. Ya, I have the luxury since I have several grand stuck in spray equipment. Spray bombs generally won't spray evenly and this can be seen when doing large areas such as your cabinet. If I can find lacquer in a spray then that may change my own rules. Lacquers can be sanded and "rubbed out" with varying grits of rubbing compound for a first class professional finish. I have not looked recently for lacquer in a spray can at the local hardware and I would think if it is even available it would have to be at the local automotive parts/paint store (EPA again I think). Anyway you wouldn't find it to match.

I shoot (with HVLP gun) enamels on some cabinets. My NC-173 I have lacquer matched and will use that because I can predict the results with a little elbow grease. I need a thin coat with good coverage on the face of the 173 so I have room left to fill in the embossed lettering with an off-white artist lacquer. I did this on my old USM-140 scope (HP) and it looked brand new! If I painted for a living (and I was good!...) I'd probably plow into it with enamel and forget the rub out step.

If I were doing it myself and I wasn't loaded with paint guns, compressors.... Starting from ground zero I'd have my paint mixed in lacquer. Spray it with a borrowed paint system. You can get away using anything for this. Heck, maybe even pour it on as long as you don't get it too thick. The look of it comes into play based on how much elbow grease do you want to supply. I used to do plastic wing tips where I'd shoot with a conventional gun 2 coats metallic, wet sand with 400 (easy), shoot 2 more coats, wet sand 600, buff with extra fine rubbing compound, wax and WOW! Get the camera. Lacquer is the ultimate beginners paint IMHO. I've shot most common types, it gets my vote under proper conditions.

Lastly, clean the cabinet, sand entire cabinet with 220 and feather areas where bare metal shows including scratches. Prime areas that are feathered to bare metal with enamel (gray) primer (Rust-O-Leum works ok) assuming you had the paint mixed in enamel. Take the cabinet to a paint shop with the mixed matched enamel paint and the proper reducer and have it done.

I could have fun doing this if it weren't for all the other things I have fun doing which keep getting pushed aside for having to do all the things I don't want to do....

Tim WA0TSY
thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 22:05:04 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 17:05:04 -0500

Message-Id: <PMX-TERM-2.02-bsm2ee1-thaake-234>
From: thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake)
Subject: RE: Spray Painting

Tony,

In my mail on painting there is a paragraph where I said.....
Lastly, clean the cabinet, sand entire cabinet with 220 and feather areas where bare metal shows including scratches. Prime areas that are feathered to bare metal with enamel (gray) primer (Rust-O-Leum works ok) assuming you had the paint mixed in enamel. Take the cabinet to a paint shop with the mixed matched enamel paint and the proper reducer and have it done.

I inadvertently left out after you have primed the feathered spots you will need to wet sand the painted and non-painted areas. You can start with hitting it lightly with 220 and then seriously with a pass of 400, then 600. You want to remove any scratches from the paint caused by the earlier heavier grits. It will feel like glass when you're gettin there. If you short change here you won't see it tell you have it painted and then it's too late. My teacher always said 80% of the job is in the preparation. I agree.

All of this may sound intensive if you have never done it but it is fun and very rewarding (and really simple too) for those who like to roll their own.

Tim WA0TSY
thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 01:07:05 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 20:07:05 -0500
Message-Id: <199506070104.AA15075@ns-1.csn.net>
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: Re: Spray Painting

Tony and all: The comments of Hank van Clef and other are well taken in suggesting using the services of a pro auto body guy. My brother has been in the auto body business for many years (and making more money at it than some doctors and lawyers). One concept not mentioned is that a good auto body guy must also have the excellent eyes of an artist when it comes to matching paint. Damaged portions of vehicles are often repaired and repainted and the paint MUST match, and perfectly, or the customer is gonna be back. One generally can't use the "formula" color on older paint exposed to the sun for a few years so many of those guys are damn good when it comes to matching color. (My brother found a perfect match for Johnson Maroon in a modified Toyota shade) So my suggestion is to see if the painter can match the color

for you instead of trying to do it yourself at a paint store. If the guy is good, he'll probably do a better job at it. And I'd also recommend checking out the guys that do custom paint jobs on motorcycles and semi-tractors. They often work out of their garages, could care less about OSHA regulations, and their work can truly be American folk art in attention to detail and matching. Just be prepared to bring along something stronger than beer and sit down and pass the bottle for a while..Satisfaction guaranteed! (but you might end up having to fix his car stereo in payment). Bill

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, dive right in- don't hesitate!"
- de KD0HG/AAR8CC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 20:39:45 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 15:39:45 -0500
Message-Id: <m0sJ563-00003kC@next3.acme.ist.ucf.edu>
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: ST70 Swap

Someone mentioned that he was using an ST-70 for BA audio and he was restoring a Heath Amp to replace it.

I have a Heath Heath A-9B Mono amp in pretty (excellent?) good shape. Its a push-pull 6L6GB with built in pre-amp.

Trade?

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:24:11 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:24:11 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950606092045.grant@nq5t>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: Svetlana 811A: Followup

I posted a message a while back about problems I encountered trying to use Svetlana 811A's in class B modulator service (in a Globe King 500C).

Returned the tubes to RF Parts about a month ago, but no clear resolution to date. They offered to send a

pair of Chinese 811A's to test while they figured out what to do about the Svetlana tubes, but offered that the Chinese tubes are not up to RCA/JAN standards.

Per the guys at RF Parts, they're being told by Svetlana that the tubes have never been tested in class B audio service. Well, I can tell you that IN MY TESTS (groan) they do an excellent job of clipping the modulated waveform into something approaching a pretty good square wave. I have a suspicion that the push-pull plate-to-plate impedance of these Russian tubes is wildly different from the RCA tubes, which could account for the severe clipping observed -- but that's only a guess. They do appear on the scope to be saturating.

If this ever gets worked out (one way or the other) I'll let you know.

Grant/NQ5T -- Double Oak, TX

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 16:39:33 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 11:39:33 -0500
Message-Id: <199506061637.MAA04917@bear.MOTOWN.GE.COM>
From: "S. Miller" <smiller@motown.ge.com>
Subject: Tektronix Catalogs FS plus

I have 2 Tek catalogs for sale:
1970 and 1975, twenty dollars each plus postage.
Also 4cx1500b still in the shrink wrap from Eimac (make me an offer).
Please respond to smiller@motown.ge.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:00:56 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:00:56 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061458.AA324597@rs2.ccd.harris.com>
From: dsnowden@ccd.harris.com (Doug Snowden)
Subject: The Magazines are Promised Already, sri

Doug
ZZs

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 13:53:54 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 08:53:54 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: William_Sievers-LWS005@email.mot.com
Subject: RE: Trigger or other BA haunts

Dave,

When I read your e-mail concerning Madison Electronics, it brought back some memories to say the least! I used to work at Madison's from 1966 until early 1968 while I was attending the University of Houston and worked for Max and Don Busick. (BTW many people thought Madison was the name of the owner. In fact it was the telephone exchange name for the original location of the store before it moved to McKinney St.)

Max was a real character. He had a memory like a rubber stamp and could find anything in his stockpiles of parts located in several of his warehouses around Houston by merely a vague description of something someone was looking for. I remember one time he was looking for some specific item and he asked me to go with him to one of the "warehouses" (these were really old houses no longer suitable for human occupancy but cheap and effective for storing tons of old BA's and other stuff). We arrived at the house and opened up the door. Immediately I was confronted with a wall of gear which I had to literally climb over to gain access to the rest of the "junk". After moving piece after piece of old equipment (most of it was seismic gear from many of the geophysical survey companies around the Houston area), there at the bottom of some huge pile would be the piece of gear Max wanted. We always took nut drivers, pliers, screwdrivers etc. to a site so removal of a specific component could be done on the spot. One thing about that old seismic gear was that it was all built like a battleship and weighed a "ton". There were many good components contained in some of these units and we would strip them down to sell the meters, switches, etc.

Even though Don Busick closed Madison about 6 months ago, he still has a lot of the old equipment (probably still scattered around in warehouses in Houston) and is selling it off. He was at Dayton this year and I guess he's still active in selling this stuff even though it's no longer under the Madison name.

If anyone out there worked at Madison's during the time I did, I'd be interested in hearing from you. I don't remember all of the names, but one of the fellow's name was Dennis and he was a ventriloquist (good one too!). Phil Shedd was another. I think he's now a minister.

73,

Bill Sievers
KC1HP

Chicago was always kinda fun but down here in Houston there used to be this guy named Max Busek at Madison Electronics. He had about 30 old houses scattered all over east of downtown and if he was feeling good sometimes he'd take you over to one or two, unlock them and let you browse thru the piles of BA's to the ceiling. If you were careful, you could avoid anything falling on you and find great anchor rollers and other heavy stuff. Some stuff was sheap and other stuff was way out of line. When his son took over and they built the Brown Convention center, I think it all went to the dumper - What a shame. It all certainly went WAY up in price thru his son.

Anybody out there ever really KNOW what happened to it all?
Anybody else been to Madison's in Houston? Rumors abound of OTHER BA sacred ground down here but I'll be dipped it I can find any of them except maybe EPO but they are just a computer/sandshack.

Dave Sharp
Houston, TX USA
dave=sharp%legal%corp=hou@bangate.compaq.com
Eagles, like other leaders don't flock - you find them one at a time.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 14:39:42 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 09:39:42 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.950606093558.grant@nq5t>
From: Grant Youngman <gyoungma@gtetel.com>
Subject: RE: Trigger or other BA haunts

snip...

>Chicago was always kinda fun but down here in Houston there used to be this
>guy named Max Busek at Madison Electronics. He had about 30 old houses
>scattered all over east of downtown and if he was feeling good sometimes he'd
more snipping ...

Hate to see all the old places disappearing like Madison has, but I guess its inevitable in this age of McDonalds-style franchise operations.

I went to school in Houston (Rice) back in the 60's and remember browsing through Madison and being awed by

some of the surplus components (HUGE variable caps, etc.) and other stuff.

Also remember a place in Chicago (lived there, too - Lakeshore and Division) west on Irving Blvd from the lake. Loaded with old Collins gear and other goodies. But I was in the midst of a ham radio lull and didn't take advantage of the stuff that was in that shop. (Highrise living in Chicago was not a favorable environment for heavy ham operating). All I remember about the place was that it was on the left side of Irving headed west -- somewhere. Wonder if anyone recollects what it was and if its still there?

Grant/NQ5T -- Double Oak, TX

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 15:44:23 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 10:44:23 -0500

Message-Id: <199506061542.KAA16648@uro.theporch.com>

From: kasley@fnal.gov

Subject: RE: Trigger or other BA haunts

>....

>Also remember a place in Chicago (lived there, too - Lakeshore and Division) west on Irving Blvd from the lake. Loaded with old Collins gear and other goodies. But I was in the midst of a ham radio lull and didn't take advantage of the stuff that was in that shop. (Highrise living in Chicago was not a favorable environment for heavy ham operating). All I remember about the place was that it was on the left side of Irving headed west -- somewhere. Wonder if anyone recollects what it was and if its still there?

>

>Grant/NQ5T -- Double Oak, TX

>

The place is the Radio-TV Lab. George is still there on Irving Park Road, on the south side of the street just west of Central Avenue.

-paul wa9vyb

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 19:52:38 1995

Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:52:38 -0500
Message-Id: <56992.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: RE: Voltage Standards

In message Tue, 6 Jun 1995 14:11:15 -0500,
adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams) writes:

>
>
>
>
> I'm looking for some everyday critter that I could use to
> test voltmeters, etc. Is there something like a CdHg battery
> source that is good to four places?? Cheap and off the shelf?
>
> Not an obsession, but wanted anyway.
>
> Is this your area withing NIST?

Sorry but not my area. I'm currently doing standards design measurements at the 1 micrometer and below level on semiconductors (mainly IC) line width's and photomask overlay error determination procedures. Also have a lot of experience with nuclear radiation and linear accelerator instrumentation but no experience in voltage standards. However, there are a number of commerical reference chips sold today that most likely are good to 3-4 places. The PMI chips REF-01 to REF-10 come to mind. The REF-10 is a 10 volt precision voltage reference. Set the input to about 15V and get 10Vout that is adjustable by +/- 3% with a 50ppm/1000hr stability. If you need other voltages lower make a simple voltage divider. You might try to get a PMI databook. Precision Monolithics Inc. 1500 Space Park Dr. P.O. Box 58020 Santa Clara, Ca 95052-8020. 408-727-9222. This address from my 1988 catalog, hope its still the same. Allied Electronics--Newark Electronics--Pioneer are distributors and they may give out the Databooks. Hope this helps. BTW Newark list the REF-01 and REF-02 at about \$6.00.

James C. Owen, III
National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
Bldg 225/B360
Gaithersburg, MD 20899
1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 04:13:22 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 23:13:22 -0500
Message-Id: <nx7u.55.000B14CA@primenet.com>
From: nx7u@primenet.com (Scott Townley)
Subject: WANT: Old HP X-Y recorder pens

I am in need of old HP ink pens for my X-Y recorder HP7044A.
These are the old 0.38" diameter felt pens with two flats on the sides. The pens snap into the pen holder.
Old HP p/n (if it helps):
5081-1190 thru 5081-1193
OR: sources for same.
Thanks,
Scott
nx7u@primenet.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 22:44:50 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 17:44:50 -0500
Message-Id: <199506062243.RAA16342@uro.theporch.com>
From: Dave Phillips <dphillips@ips.iac.honeywell.com>
Subject: WANTED Yaesu FTV-401 VFO

WANTED: A Yaesu FTV-400 or FTV-401 External VFO for the FTdx-4xx/5xx series. If you have one you would like to trade for \$\$\$, please reply to

Dave Phillips
KB7JS
dphillips@ips.iac.honeywell.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 12:57:38 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 07:57:38 -0500
Message-Id: <9506061256.AA07695@alpha>
From: Duncan Cadd <dcadd@luc.ac.be>
Subject: Wood's metal

Greetings, Anchorites, from a still cloudy Diepenbeek in N.E. Belgium!

The Wood's metal formula, courtesy Aldrich Chemical Company, is:

Lead 50%; Bismuth 25%; Tin 12.5%; Cadmium 12.5% and it melts at 70 deg C.

Given the cadmium content, you might be better off with the 40% lead 60% bismuth mix which melts at 126 deg C. That's still less (a lot less) than lead/tin mixtures.

73,

Duncan GOUTY / ON9CHU G-QRP 8117

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 12:28:02 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 07:28:02 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950606051544.19249A-100000@crl7.crl.com>
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: Woods Metal is available

I also have an interest in building crystal detectors and found that you can still purchase Woods metal and it is fairly cheap. Seems like I only paid about \$4 for about 1/4 lb. The model machinist use it for something so they have small mail order firms supply them. I got mine from:

Power Model Supply Co.
13260 Summit Dr
DeSoto, MO 63020
(314) 586-6466

It works very well. Many different materials work for the crystals. I found that geologist, rock hounds and chemists do not all call the same material the same name. You will find some of the crystal elements at the Nature Company in the Malls. I wrote an article one time for our local QRP club newsletter, if I can find a copy will put it on the BA list.

de stan ak0b
e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Wed Jun 7 03:26:42 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 22:26:42 -0500
Message-Id: <199506070322.UAA17349@mailhost.primenet.com>
From: nx7u@primenet.com (Scott Townley)
Subject: WTB: Wooden Tripods

Looking for some old style collapsible wooden tripods, with the standard 1/4" bolt on top to screw stuff in.
To be used with my boatanchor test equipment out in the field.

OR: sources of same (already tried Fair Radio!)
Thanks,
Scott Townley
nx7u@primenet.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 21:48:45 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 16:48:45 -0500
Message-Id: <9506062144.AA27700@manta.nosc.mil>
From: ejz@nosc.mil (Edward J. Zeranski)
Subject: Xtal sets

A few years ago I picked up a book called "Radios That Work For Free" from Lindsay Publications. It had plans for several crystal sets
Ed Zeranski This is a private message or opinion and has nothing to do with my employer or the US Govt. etc!!